A RUSSIAN hunter with his Kashmir Markhor trophy in Gahirait-Golen conservancy in Lower Chitral on Wednesday. The hunter, having paid $68,000 for the non-exportable trophy hunting permit, was successful in tracing the nine-year-old animal after a two-day search. In the non-exportable trophy category, the horn and the head are retained by the wildlife department. — Photo and text by Zahiruddin

KP govt agrees to arrange Rs4bn bridge financing for Northern Bypass

CM promises 'every possible support' for timely completion of Peshawar project

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has formally agreed to arrange bridge finance of Rs4 billion for the early completion of the long delayed Northern Bypass on schedule during the current fiscal.

The decision was made in a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Sohail Afridi here on Wednesday.

The participants included chairperson of the Prime Minister Inspection Team retired brigadier Muzaffar Ali Ranjha, adviser to the chief minister on finance Muzzammil Aslam, Peshawar commissioner Riaz Khan Mehsud and other relevant officials.

Over 30km Northern Bypass, which has been planned to complete the Ring Road around the provincial capital, has missed several deadlines due to paltry releases from the Federal Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) and some other issues in the last 17 years, according to officials.

They said that in Wednesday's meeting, the KP government expressed its readiness to arrange Rs4 billion bridge financing for the project through bank guarantees. It also decided to manageRs200 million funds from its own resources for the construction of two culverts on the project site at the cost of Rs100 million apiece.

The officials said that member National Highway Authority informed the meeting that the project now needed Rs8 billion for completion due to cost escalation.

However, the KP insisted that the federal government dripping fund releases were responsible for prolonging construction of a 30km for up to two decades; so the centre should foot the bill for cost escalation.

The officials said that both sides agreed to hold another meeting at the start of the next week to finalise the arrangements of the funding, which would be attended by the chairperson of the PM Inspection Team, adviser to the chief minister on finance, Peshawar's commissioner and NHA officials.

Mr Afridi expressed concerns over the prolonged delay in the completion of the key project and blamed it on funding issues on part of the Centre.

"Since the Northern Bypass is a project of vital importance for the people of Peshawar, our government will extend every possible support for its timely completion," he said.

He said that besides facilitating commuters, this road will also boost trade activities. NHA officials at this occasion said that the project would be completed by June 2026.

The project, which is currently in its 17th year of execution, has seen its cost balloon from Rs3 billion to Rs27 billion due to small releases from the federal government.

The official documents available with *Dawn* show that the project launched in November 2010 has seen three PC-I revisions and missed several deadlines. Package I of the project, measuring 7.6km from motorway interchange to Charsadda Road, was originally scheduled to be completed in 2011. However, the deadline was later revised to 2014.

Over 12km Package II runs from Charsadda Road to Mulazai Chowk. Work on it started in 2015 and was scheduled to complete in 2012. However, it was revised to Dec 31, 2025. This phase has so far seen completion of 64pc work.

Similarly, work on the 5.1km Package 3A, which runs from Mulazai Chowk to Nasir Bagh Road, has been going on since 2013. It was scheduled to be completed in 2014. However, it was later revised to Dec 31, 2025. A total of 86.5pc of work has been completed in this phase.

Work on Package 3B, which is 5.47km from Nasir Bagh to Takhta Baig checkpost in Khyber district, was launched in Dec 2023 with the scheduled to open in June this year. However, the project deadline was revised to Feb 2026.

The project's PC-I, according to documents available with *Dawn*, was originally conceived with a cost tag of Rs3.07 billion. In the second PC-I revision, the cost was jacked up to Rs9 billion, Rs21.3 billion in the second revision and Rs27.05 billion in third revision.

The documents pointed out that the project, which was in its closing stages, had a PSDP allocation of Rs500 million for the current fiscal against the requirement of Rs4.27 billion.

They highlighted the importance of revising the PSDP allocation for the current fiscal to Rs5.3 billion, including Rs4.27 billion actual estimate and Rs1.1 billion for escalation.

The project, according to documents, requires Rs0.37 billion in the first quarter, Rs2 billion in the second and third quarters and Rs1 billion in the fourth quarter. In 2013, the then Peshawar High Court chief justice, Dost Mohammad Khan, also took a suo motu notice of the project delay.

Governor rules out talks with armed groups

By Our Correspondent

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Governor Faisal Karim Kundi on Wednesday paid tributes to the police personnel who embraced martyrdom in the recent Panyala incident and reaffirmed the government's firm stance against terrorism, stating that there would be no dialogue with those who take up arms against the state.

The governor visited Ijaz Shaheed Police Lines in Dera Ismail Khan, where he met the families and colleagues of the martyred officials, including assistant sub-inspector Gul Aslam, constable driver Sakhi Jan, and constable Muhammad Rafiq. He offered condolences to the bereaved families and prayed for the elevation of the martyrs' ranks and patience for their relatives. He also laid a floral wreath at the police martyrs' memorial and offered fateha.

Talking to media, the governor said that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was currently facing a challenging security situation, where Pakistan's armed forces, police, Federal Constabulary and Frontier Corps were rendering immense sacrifices to maintain peace.

He said the bravery of security personnel had repeatedly prevented large-scale tragedies, citing recent incidents in Dera Ismail Khan, Waziristan, and Peshawar, where timely actions by personnel saved many lives.

Kundi said the province was fighting a difficult war against militancy, adding that Pakistan had repeatedly shared evidence at various forums regarding the use of Afghan soil by hostile elements, including India and Israel, to destabilise Pakistan. He reiterated that Pakistan respected the Afghan people but stressed that illegal residency would not be tolerated.

The governor categorically stated that there would be no negotiations with individuals or groups who refused to accept the Constitution and laws of Pakistan.

On development initiatives, the governor said peace was a prerequisite for progress and prosperity in the province including the Chashma Left Canal, the proposed international airport, an SIUT kidney hospital and a Danish School.

Meanwhile, the governor also visited the residence of Shaheed Major Adeel in Garhi Sadozai here to offer fateha and condolences to the bereaved family.

Major Adeel embraced martyrdom during an operation against Fitna-al-Khawarij in Bajaur. The governor attended a collective Quran khwani held for the Isal-e-Sawab of the martyred army officer and expressed sympathy with Major Adeel's father, former DSP Sher Zaman Khan, his brothers Gohar Zaman and Umair Zaman, nephew Arsalan Sadozai, and other family members.

Later, the governor also paid his visit to the grave of Shaheed Major Adeel and offered Fateha.

RESIDENTS URGED TO AVOID AERIAL FIRING: Tank police have urged the citizens to avoid resorting to aerial firing on the occasion of new year. In a public message, it warned the public that aerial firing was not only illegal but could also be life-threatening.

According to the police, it is crucial to avoid aerial firing on the new year or any other celebration, as a stray bullet could endanger innocent lives.

It has made it clear that strict action would be taken against anyone violating the law.

JIRGA HELD TO RESOLVE ISSUES OF TRADERS: The assistant commissioner Sarwekai, South Waziristan Upper, Azmat Ali Khan Afridi, has held a jirga (meeting) with shopkeepers at the political Sarai to resolve issues relating to business community of the area.

According to the administration, shopkeepers during the meeting were instructed to bring their agreements and deposit any outstanding fees into the government treasury.

On the occasion, the AC said that the government was taking comprehensive measures to resolve the issues faced by the business community.

Kohat jirga vows action against elements spreading unrest

KOHAT: A high-level peace jirga convened in Kohat on Wednesday vowed firm action against all those elements seeking to undermine stability by spreading hatred and unrest in the region.

The meeting, held at the District Council Hall, was chaired by Kohat division commissioner Syed Motasim Billah Shah and attended by Kohat deputy commissioner Rahimullah Mehsud, senior police officers and officials of the line departments.

Elders from Sunni and Shia communities, traders, political and social figures, notables and civil society representatives were also present.

The community leaders also announced mass agitation movement against prolonged electricity and gas outages from the platform of City Action Committee.

Speaking at the Jirga, dispute resolution council chairman Justice retired Ibn-e-Ali and other speakers called for impartial and across-the-board action against those spreading hatred and unrest, stressing that no individual or group would be spared on the basis of sect or affiliation.

The participants assured the district administration of their full cooperation in maintaining peace and law and order, while expressing serious concern over 'unjustified' electric and gas loadshedding, describing it as a major public grievance.

The jirga also demanded the revival of peace committees to strengthen community-level coordination and conflict prevention.

Commissioner Motasim Billah informed the meeting that the administration had placed the resolution of core public issues at the top of its priorities. — Correspondent

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Mohammad Sohail Afridi has directed the authorities concerned to complete the printing of more than 117,000 pending driving licence cards across the province within one month.

Following the chief minister's directives, the transport department has notified a district-wise schedule for the printing and delivery of driving licence cards in accordance with the stipulated timelines, according to a statement issued here on Wednesday.

According to the schedule, the printing of driving licences in Hazara division will be completed in the first week of January 2026, while in Malakand division, the pending driving licence cards of Swat, Dir and Buner will be delivered to citizens by mid-January 2026. — Bureau Report

LADY READING HOSPITAL- MEDICAL TEACHING INSTITUTION, PESHAWAR

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Applications are invited for the following Positions on contract basis:

S. No	Post	Qualification & Experience Required
01	**Medical Sonologist**	1. The candidate must have MBBS or equivalent qualification duly recognized by and registered with PMC/PMDC**(Females are encouraged to apply)**. 2. The candidate must have 01-year training as Sonologist or experience in recognized teaching/training Institution is required. 3. The candidate must have Valid PMC/PMDC registration.
02	**Quality Assurance Officer**	1. The candidate must have Minimum Bachelor degree (16 years education), preferably Masters in Total Quality Management/Business Studies/Social Sciences/Health Sciences or Equivalent. 2. Excellent written and verbal communication skills. 3. Quality Assurance Certifications, Excellent Computer Skills, with proficiency in Microsoft Office tools, Knowledge of SPSS will be an added advantage. 4. The candidate having 01-year relevant experience in a reputed hospital/organization.
03	**Medical Record Officer**	1. The candidate must have Bachelor degree (16 years education)/Master Degree from HEC recognized University 2. The candidate must have (03) years of working experience in Medical Records in supervisory or HoD role in a reputed organization/hospital.
04	**Executive Chef**	1. The candidate must have HSSC or equivalent qualification from Recognized Board. 2. The candidate must have 05-years relevant experience in at least Three-star Hotel/restaurant or in Cafeteria of a large public or private organization or in a tertiary care hospital cafeteria. 3. The candidate should know of kitchen Hygiene.
05	**Optometrist**	1. The candidate must have BS in Vision Sciences/Optometryor equivalent qualification from HEC Recognized University. 2. The candidate must have 02 Years Relevant Experience in a Reputed Organization/Hospital.
06	**Supervisor (Electrical)**	1. The candidate must have B-Tech (Electrical) (16 years education) from HEC recognized University. 2. The candidate must have (03) years' working experience as a Supervisor Electrical in a reputed organization.
07	**Bio Medical Technician**	1. The candidate must have DAE in Electronics/Biomedical from recognized Board/Institute. 2. The candidate must have 03 years relevant experience in a reputed organization.
08	**Technician (Dialysis)**	1. The candidate must have BS in Relevant Technology from HEC Recognized Institute/University. 2. The candidate must have 01-year relevant experience preferably in a reputed Hospital.
09	**Cook 1**	1. The candidate must have SSC or equivalent qualification from recognized Board. 2. The candidate must have 02-years relevant experience in at least Three-star Hotel/restaurant or in Cafeteria of a large public or private organization or in a tertiary care hospital cafeteria. 3. The candidate should know of kitchen Hygiene.
10	**Nursing Assistant (In-House Certificate Training)**	1. The applicant must meet one of the following requirements to take admission; a. Minimum F. Sc/FA qualification OR b. Any diploma/certificate in nursing/paramedics courses from recognized institutions 2. Must be physically capable of performing duties such as bending, lifting, and carrying heavy objects, etc.

General Instructions;

1. Interested candidates should send prescribed job application (Available on www.lrh.edu.pk), duly filled to the following address through registered Courier Service by **15th January2026.*However, the job advertisement at serial No 01. (Medical Sonologist) may be treated as "running job advertisement", till filling of the vacancies*.**
   Those candidates who have already applied for the post at serial No. 02 publishedon 13th September 2025 with a closing date as 29th September, 2025, need not to apply again as their previous applications will be considered.
2. For positions from serial No. 01 to 09 the candidates should submit Job Application processing fee of Rs. 1000/- (Non-Refundable) to be deposited in MCB Account No. 0847608141003952 (online), titled as "Receipt of Hospital LRH MTI" Branch code (0958). Original Deposit slip must be attached with the Job Application.

For Candidates applying for the position at serial N0. 10.

3. *The institution will offer a monthly stipend of Rs. 15,000/ per month during the entire period of training.*
4. *In-house certificate will be awarded on successful completion of (01) one-year training program in Out Outpatient department only.*
5. *The students must obey the code of conduct, attendance, dress code, and other instructions issued by the nursing director's office or course management committee*.

6. Job Application must be supported by the requisite credentials and shall be attested.
7. Incomplete or by hand submission of job application shall not be entertained.
8. Candidates should be eligible in all respects including qualification, & certificates before the closing date of the advertisement. Only post qualification experience will be considered.
9. Any candidate may be disqualified or excluded from interview if he/ she was;
   a. Knowingly furnishes any false information.
   b. Suppresses any information which may lead to his/ her disqualification.
   c. Submits forged/fake certificates including educational and experience etc.
10. The service of the incumbent will be governed by the Medical Teaching Institution Reform Act 2015 and its amendments made, Rules and Regulations of the Institution.
11. The prescribed quota for disabilities and minorities will be maintained as per rule.
12. Any attempt to approach or influence the selection committee will automatically disqualify the applicant the decision of the selection committee will be final subject to approval by the Board of Governors.
13. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for Test/ Interview.
14. After a final decision no correspondence regarding the process will be entertained.

Hospital Director
Address: Human Resources Department
Lady Reading Hospital Medical Teaching Institution, Peshawar
Phone: +92 91 9211430, Web: www.lrh.edu.pk